

State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

December 22, 2003

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Mayor Richard Greene Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Mayor Greene:

Happy holidays.

This letter is meant to fulfill New Mexico's requirements under Section 6102 (c) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). TEA-21 modified the Clean Air Act schedule for designating the status of areas with regards to the revised national ambient air quality standard for particulate matter 2.5 microns in size (PM2.5). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency promulgated a revised particulate matter standard in July 1997 for PM2.5. TEA-21 required that each state submit recommendations on the status of areas with regard to attainment of the new particulate matter standard.

We have evaluated 2000-2002 ambient ozone monitoring data with respect to the new PM 2.5 standard, and find that all areas of New Mexico are in compliance with the standard. Hence we recommend attainment status for all areas of the state within our jurisdiction with regard to the new PM2.5 standard.

Sincerely,

Bill Richardson

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Governor of New Mexico

cc. Mr. Ron Curry, Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department

Mr. Jim Norton, Division Director, Environmental Protection Division

Ms. Sandra Ely, Bureau Chief, Air Quality Bureau